



COCONINO
Highways



Canines Help Sheriff's Office Serve the Community

On December 13th Cassie became the newest member of the Coconino County Sheriff's Search and Rescue (SAR) Flagstaff Unit. She is a one year old German Shepherd who was donated to the Flagstaff Search and Rescue Unit by Guthrie's International Trainers and Breeders in Tucson, Arizona. Cassie has been trained by her breeder to be a tracking/trailing dog for search and rescue missions. SAR Volunteers Al and Joan Astorga will be Cassie's primary handlers. They will continue training with Cassie and Melanie Guthrie in Tucson.



The addition of Cassie provides the SAR unit with another tool for locating lost persons. She will be of great value when in looking for people who may be unresponsive, such as Alzheimer's patients and young children. Her keen sense of smell will also be called upon in cases where there are few clues. Cassie is the second dog to join the Sheriff's Office ranks over the last year, the first being Viktor a Belgian Malinois trained to assist with searches as well as other police enforcement functions.

Thanks to another generous donation from a family in the community, the Sheriff's Office

is in the process of adding another dog to the Patrol K9 Unit. Canines in our patrol division live with and respond to scenes with a deputy who has been through specific training with the dog. As with Viktor, this next canine will be trained to respond to searches, to apprehend suspects in certain situations, and to conduct drug searches on traffic stops and at other venues including our county jail.

Canines working with deputies provide additional protection and assistance to our deputies who often respond to remote locations. This next canine will be assigned to the deputy in the Blue Ridge area. The donors wish to remain anonymous, but are very happy to be giving back to the community.

We are extremely appreciative of the many people who have made our K9 Program a reality and a success. In addition to the previously mentioned donations for our Patrol K9 Unit, we received donations and assistance from Warren and Kristi Hubbard of Olsen's Grain in Flagstaff, Canyon Pet Hospital, and other donors who wish to remain anonymous. The SAR K9 is currently being supported by donations from volunteers in the Flagstaff Sheriff's Search and Rescue 501c corporation. The addition of the canines to our force is truly a cooperative community effort that is providing enhanced law enforcement and public safety services to our community.

Sheriff's Office Hosts National Search and Rescue School

By Sergeant Aaron Dick

The Coconino County Sheriff's Office hosted the National Search and Rescue School's Inland Search and Rescue (SAR) Planning Course from December 3-7, 2007. This is a graduate level course for search and rescue planners. The class focused on search theory and ways to improve planning for a variety of SAR incidents. During the class, participants practice their skills during tabletop exercises in which they develop plans to respond to pretend searches. The course is taught by personnel from the U.S. Air Force who travel around the country. Flagstaff was one of eleven sites chosen to host the course this past year.

Search and Rescue personnel from Coconino County, Navajo County, Yavapai County, Pima County, Mohave County, Arizona Division of Emergency Management, U.S. Air Force, U.S. Coast Guard, and the Civil Air Patrol attended the Flagstaff session. The skills they learned will help search and rescue team managers make better decisions for using resources (people and equipment) based on the characteristics of the search area and the type of search. Coconino County Sheriff's Office personnel who attended the class were: Deputy Jennifer Morrison and SAR Volunteers Art Pundt, Howard Nott, and Victor Walco.



Students practice planning for searches during a recent National Search and Rescue School's Inland Search and Rescue class.

Expanded Programs at Maine Consolidated School

By Lieutenant Brian Tozer



Students at Maine Consolidated School learn about the effects of drugs and alcohol on organs of the body.

In 2007, the Coconino County Sheriffs Office partnered with the Officer Robert McCarty of the Williams Police Department and officials of the Maine Consolidated School to expand the School Resource Officer Program. The goals of the program are to develop respectful, trust-building relationships between students and law enforcement and to provide students with information to help them make positive, law-abiding decisions. Officers are part educator and part mentor to the students. Because of the regular interaction between officers and students, students come to see officers in a positive light and as a place to turn in time of need.

Some of the better known programs of this type are DARE (DARE to resist drugs and alcohol) and Stranger Danger. However, there are many other programs such as Our Amazing Bodies. In the Our Amazing Bodies class, students are taught about the major organs of the human body such as the brain, heart, kidneys, liver, etc. As the class progresses, students are taught about the effects of drugs and alcohol on the body and the organs. Demonstrations are used to help teach the concepts. For example, one demonstration showed how tar is inhaled into the lungs during the smoking of a single cigarette. Another demonstration used eggs to represent the effects of alcohol on the brain. Sheriff's Deputies also have been invited to attend staff meetings and provide training to faculty on topics such as child abuse, alcohol and tobacco related crimes, and school security.

Sheriff's Office Helps Community Celebrate Christmas



Senior Center Christmas –

Employees from the Sheriff's Office join with other county employees in helping seniors celebrate during the Annual Flagstaff and Williams Senior Center Christmas lunches.

Law Enforcement Toy Drive – The Annual Northern Arizona Law Enforcement Toy Drive was once again a great success. Over 500 families throughout Northern Arizona received toys donated by citizens. As in years past, the donation center was at the Flagstaff mall. Sheriff's Deputies delivered nearly 200 toys to families and children residing in the county. Several bags of toys were also delivered to the Tonalea Chapter House for children living on the reservation. Thanks to everyone in the community who gave so generously.

Caroling in Jail – This year inmates enjoyed live music provided by employees and volunteers during the Christmas season. Other groups also visited and sang carols with inmates to help spread some holiday cheer.



Lieutenant Mark Christian Joins Elite Graduates of the FBI National Academy

Over the past three months, Lieutenant Mark Christian has been in Quantico, Virginia at the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) National Academy. The FBI National Academy is a professional academy dedicated to developing leaders and managers of state and local police, sheriffs' departments, military police organizations, and federal law enforcement agencies. The mission of the academy is "to support, promote, and enhance the personal and professional development of law enforcement leaders by preparing them for complex, dynamic, and contemporary challenges through innovative techniques, facilitating excellence in education and research, and forging partnerships throughout the world."



The academy is internationally renowned. Students in Lt. Christian's class included police officers from Japan, the Peoples Republic of China, Taiwan, Turkey, Croatia, England, and the United States. Participation in the academy is by invitation only, through a nomination and selection process.

The academy was founded in 1935 to help develop the standards and professional track for law enforcement agencies. The academy has both academic and physical fitness components. Courses are offered in Management, Leadership, Forensics, Terrorism, Communication, Behavioral Science, Health and Fitness and a variety of other topics. Lt. Christian also completed a physical fitness challenge known as the Yellow Brick Road which consists of a several mile obstacle course. As a graduate of the FBI National Academy, Lieutenant Christian is part of a dynamic organization of the alumni who continue to work to develop law enforcement standards and professionalism.

Coconino County Sheriff's Office

911 E. Sawmill Rd.
Flagstaff, AZ 86001

PHONE:
(928) 774-4523
(800) 338-7888

FAX:
(928) 226-5029

www.coconino.az.gov



Service to Community

We are committed to providing responsive and effective Service to the Community. We earn and maintain the public's trust and confidence through our integrity and professionalism. Toward these goals, we devote our personnel, resources and energy.

Recognition Dinner for SAR and Mounted Units

This past month, the Coconino County Sheriff's Search and Rescue (SAR) and Mounted Units held their annual holiday party and recognition dinners. The event serves as a special time for the Sheriff's Office to thank the dedicated SAR and Mounted volunteers for their hard work over the past year. Congratulations to the following Mounted Unit Volunteers: Greg Ames, Anne Biggs, Nick Bussey, Kim Colangelo, Jim Freeman, Bob Hartwick, Jim Henkel, Kathy Henkel, Layne Moen, Howard Nott, Jeanne Steele, Bart Thompson, Sue Ward, Amy Grace Hauschild for 5 years of

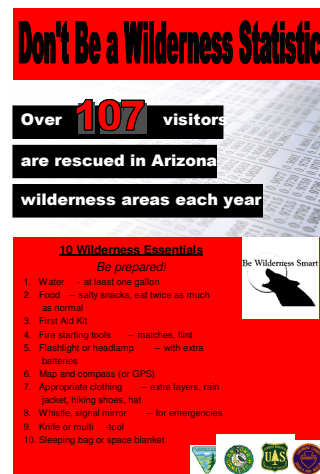
service; Frank Windes, Barry Guillet, Rody Lara for 10 years of service; and Bob Hartwick for the 2007 Mounted Volunteer of the Year. Congratulations also to: Al Astorga for the 2007 SAR Volunteer of the Year; Val Paleski for 25 Years of Service to the SAR; and Scott Baker, Scott Kuhr, Joel Axler, and Bob Baca who served as the 2007 Board of Directors. The SAR volunteers contributed over 3,600 hours of service on SAR missions and conducted nearly 2,800 hours of training to be ready for SAR missions in 2007!

Don't Be a Wilderness Statistic

During the fall 2007 semester, the Coconino County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue Unit participated in an advisory capacity for a Wilderness Management Class at Northern Arizona University School of Forestry. Wilderness Management, Forestry 445, was taught by Dr. Marty Lee. Each year the students in the class are tasked with developing products that can be used by land management agencies to promote wilderness management issues.

This year the class project was wilderness safety. The class conducted surveys of people who spend time in two major wilderness areas: the Kachina Peaks and Oak Creek Canyon. The class members then developed preventative search and rescue materials to help educate wilderness users about the hazards and challenges of wilderness areas and the difficulties in searching for or rescuing someone from a wilderness area. The slogan the class chose for their materials was "Be Wilderness Smart."

The materials the class developed included a poster and handout, an analysis of how prepared wilderness users were who they surveyed, and an insert for the Arizona Game and Fish Hunting Regulations booklet. The class also sponsored an educational workshop on wilderness safety.



The Coconino County Sheriff's Office will use the material in future outdoor safety campaigns. Other agencies that participated in the project included the U.S. Forest Service, the National Park Service, and the Arizona Game and Fish Department.